

4.4 Acknowledgement Procedures

Overview of Electronic Acknowledgment Processes

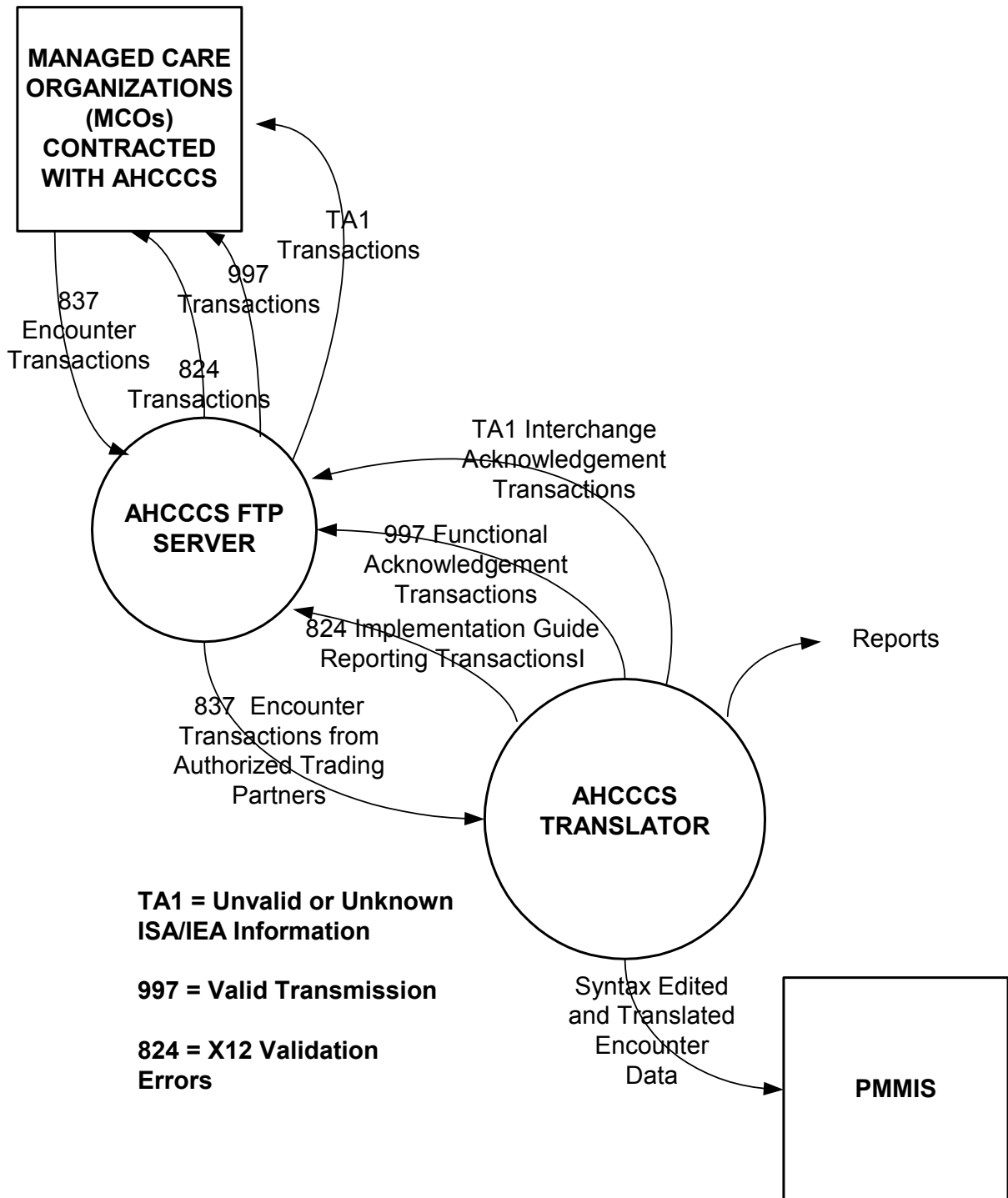
The diagram on the next page, AHCCCS Interchange Flow for 837 Encounter Transactions, shows how the AHCCCS translator accepts, acknowledges, and reports problems on 837 Encounters from health plans. The AHCCCS electronic acknowledgement and error reporting process affects all types of 837 Encounter Transactions (Professional, Dental, and Institutional).

As shown at the top of the diagram, encounter submitters transmit 837 Transactions to the AHCCCS File Transfer Protocol (FTP) Server. The AHCCCS translator uploads authorized electronic transmissions from the Server into the translator. At this point, the translator checks data in the ISA/IEA outer envelope of the interchange (i.e., transmission or file). It returns a TA1 Application Acknowledgement Segment to the claim submitter if there are errors in the outer envelope. When this happens, data within the transmission is not processed further.

For transmissions that are valid on the interchange level, the translator edits transactions and uses 824 Implementation Guide Reporting Transactions to report problems. The syntactical edits reported on the 824 are required to ensure that complex electronic transactions are assembled and formatted correctly. For syntactically valid functional groups of transactions, 997s are returned as electronic acknowledgements.

Finally comes the actual translation of syntactically valid data from the 837 Transaction to PMMIS. Elements from 837 Transactions are moved to PMMIS Tables for claim adjudication and reporting. Values of HIPAA code sets are converted to AHCCCS code set values and/or reformatted for use in claim adjudication and reporting.

AHCCCS Interchange Flow for 837 Encounter Transactions



4.5 Rejected Transmissions and Transactions

Overview of Rejection Process

Upon receiving an electronic transmission from an encounter submitter, the AHCCCS translator's first action is to check for presence and validity of data in the transaction's outer envelope of ISA and IEA Interchange Header and Trailer Segments. If ISA/IEA data is valid, processing continues. If the segments have errors, the entire file is rejected with a TA1 Interchange Acknowledgement Transaction with a descriptive error code. The submitter must correct the problem in the outer envelope and resubmit all transactions in the transmission.

Next come the translator's syntactical edits on the transaction or transactions within the outer envelope. When an incoming functional group of one or more 837 Transactions has passed the translator's syntactical edits, AHCCCS returns a 997 Functional Acknowledgement Transaction with a Functional Group Acknowledge Code (AK901) of "A" (Accepted) to signify acceptance. For functional groups with errors, one or more 824 Implementation Guide Reporting Transactions reject each 837 Transaction (ST through SE) within the functional group with an Application Acknowledgement Code (OTI01) beginning with "R" (Reject).

Any error detected by the translator results in rejection of the transaction (ST/SE). For rejected transactions, AHCCCS makes use of standard 824 error location designators to identify each erroneous data structure. The translator reports all transaction errors that it can identify. It does not stop editing when it detects a problem.

A transmission will receive only one acknowledgement, dependent upon the situation. For example, a transmission contains one Functional Group (GS/GE) with multiple transactions (ST/SE). One transaction contains encounters in error. The submitter will receive one 824 transaction detailing the errors. If the transmission contained no errors, the 997 would be returned.
